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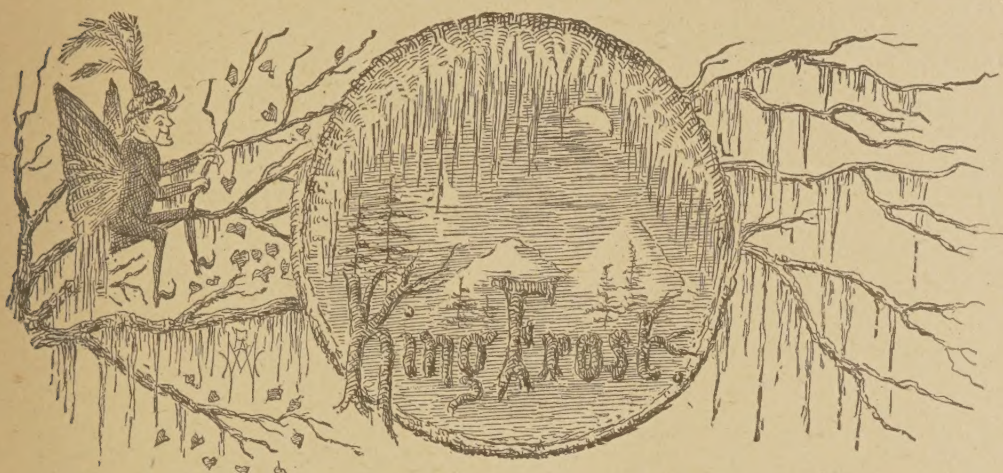


# VICKS MAGAZINE

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No. 2



The Winter winds shut down the lid,  
And Jack Frost turns the key,  
And Summer's treasures safe are hid  
From storms that are to be;  
A treasure chest  
Is old earth's breast,  
Safe locked for you and me.

Then swift the wind's wild shuttles fly  
To spin the blankets rare,  
All soft, and warm, and many ply,  
Of snow flakes in the air.  
All fleecy light,  
And downy white,  
She wraps them round with care.

And so we spare a little while,  
Our treasures from our sight,  
The verdure which makes Summer's smile  
The flowers, the earth's delight,—  
And turn to see  
What joys there be  
Around the hearthstone bright.

But just a scrap of Summer's wealth,  
A bit of Summer bloom,  
We'll win to brighten heart and health,  
And cheer our Winter room.  
So, Heaven, which takes  
Our dearest, makes  
Its own cheer 'mid earth's gloom.

DART FAIRTHORNE.

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## EVERGREENS FOR CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS.

**C**HRISTMAS, and its holidays seem to be more and more prized, every year. It was for a time, regarded as a Church-of-Rome festival. At Rome the Christmas festival is yet more impressive than elsewhere. Splendid processions of cardinals in red and white robes, and priests at the head of spectacular displays, passing over the broad marble steps to beautiful churches where every image of the Madonna is hung with jewels, begin on Christmas eve, and last during the week.

A Church-of-England festival too; the early cavalier settlers of Virginia delighted in its festivals, which accounts for the general merry making, at Christmas-tide in the South, exceeding that of other sections that derive their principles, and practices from the Puritan forefathers, uncompromising in matters pertaining to their religion. The Puritans were correct, in that Christmas legends are rather more of heathen origin, than of authentic Christian records. The Cavalier influence, and Episcopal, and Catholic Churches have so honored the day, and infused into it so much that meets with response in every heart, that with the rounding up of the Nineteenth Century,

"Peace on earth; good will to men"

is the pervading sentiment that, in spirit echoes the song of the angels which announced the great event of the coming of the Christ-child, and the joy to the world thus ushered in by that song. The influence of the day is as good, and as far reaching as if there was positive proof that it is the natal day of the Prince of Peace. The welcome to Christmas by previous preparations, so generally seen on all sides, is proof of the delightful anticipations inspired by its advent. Tastes run in many lines. The preparations for Christmas are in keeping with the lines of taste. But upon some points, nearly all seem to converge. The beautiful custom of decorating homes and churches with evergreens is one held in common, by all, at this date. Our forests teem with conifers, and other evergreen trees, and vines, that are, of themselves, bright and attractive. But taste, and ingenuity, in artistic modes, and contrivances of evergreens, give rise to the question, Which is usually the most the most beautiful, these, or the Palms, dracenas, roses, and carnations from the warm, dewy air of the conservatory? There has crept into fashionable circles, among enthusiasts with ample means, an anglomania that has for its gratification holly, and mistletoe imported from England. The expense is far in excess of that furnished by our wild woods, and in regard to the holly, the beauty far below the standard of the home-grown branches. The leaf, and berry of the American holly is unsurpassed in beauty by any in the world. They do not say that the English mistletoe is more beautiful, in leafage, and richly clustered pearly-white berries, than that obtained from our own forests. But the benefit of the doubt is not of sufficient



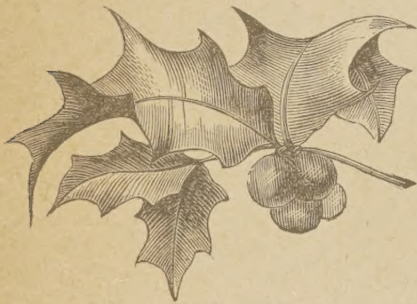
weight to justify the importation. Little ken the anglomaniacs what a fancy they follow, what an extravaganza they indulge. From E. New England, south, the holly flourishes in every State, and the berries turn a brilliant scarlet just in time for Christmas. That is why they are always so fresh and beautiful.

In combination with palms, ivies, and blooming plants, and with mistletoe, pine and Arbor-vitae, nothing surpasses our home-grown holly for Christmas decorations. What could fancy devise to exceed the beauty of a large star of mistle-



AMERICAN HOLLY.

toe, fresh, and green from the forest trees arranged over a table with a mirror, underneath, to reflect back the points of light from incandescent lamps, scattered through the centre, and every point of the star, diffusing a soft radiance over the green leaves, and pearly berries. Baskets, heaped with pink, and white roses, and white Roman hyacinths; and holly, with its scarlet berries, predominating, decorated the table, above which was the star.



ENGLISH HOLLY.

All of us can not have a beautiful star, nor other designs so enticing; and others of us, would not, if we could, send across the ocean for English holly, and mistletoe. Yet decorate with evergreens we must. Christmas would be wanting in one thing that helps to make the season, if the vases were left empty, and the walls un-adorned with greens.

"There is a new Richmond in the field." The noble pine tree, has been considered

Loaf Pine Apple. *Pinus strobus* or White Pine, *Pinus resinosa*, *Pinus ponderosa* or California pine, one or another flourish in every section of the United States. Then there is the little pine, the botanic name *Araucaria imbricata*, but its common name is Monkey Pine. It is from the Andes of Chile, and not only for its beauty, but for its hard white wood it is grown for the masts of ships. Let those who have tried the effect of pine for Christmas decorations hie to the forest, and select the best of the rich green, bristling branches. Surprise that anything so

common could be so capable of development into the artistic, will be the first sensation. Then admiration for the fine effect will be mingled with the pleasure of the balsamic odor of the pine. In heated apartments, at Christmas, and New Year, over and above the soft, sweet perfume of carnations, heliotropes, and violets, its pungent breath arises, with an aroma that makes us take another, and another sniff to get a good draught of the turpentine, health-giving elixir.

The long-leaved Southern Pine, and the gigantic California Pine only differ in the length of the leaf, and size of the cone, from others of the *Pinus* family. The attractive characteristics of the trees are all alike. Short pine branches, with palmetto, and the gray moss, (*Tillandsia*) are used for bold effect in decorations. The Saw Palmetto, or *Serenoa serrulata*, is cut, the full crown, with from six to ten leaves, a foot or more in length of stem, to each, and is placed in pots, tubs or jardinières, lasting the entire season, wherever palms are needed in effect. It is of a deep rich green and while not as graceful as some other palms, decorates handsomely. The long gray moss drapes windows and doors, looped back, like portieres, or curtains, with trailing sprays of ivy, and bordered by light twigs of holly. It is also very light, and graceful, above and around

#### PREMONITIONS.

WINTER, in literature, is always wintry. The actual season is somewhat different, being a modified summer; life's great current, though greatly slackened, hardly ceases to flow. John Burroughs says it would be a bold poet who put grasshoppers into his winter poem, but they are not at all uncommon in the fields wherever the earth shows in patches and the snow is melting; not the haggard wornout insects of the late autumn, trying their instruments of sunny November days, but bright green ones, as trim and active as any of their race, though they do not sing. And loitering along a sunny woodside the same day, you may start a great gray cricket, well fed and portly, who jumps strongly, alighting on snow or warm dry leaves, as it may be. Butterflies or moth might at first seem more out of place than grasshoppers, but they are more numerous, both as species and individuals. The snow was deep in the woods and winter had evidently come to stay, but a blackberry cane still retained some of its leaves, which though frozen through and through and hanging limp, kept their color, while round them hovered a whitish moth, plainly attracted by their green tint, the only color in his world. Thinking of the miles of bloom spread for his comrades of the summer, I could hardly help a gentle feeling of pity for this poor insect, thus reduced to a half dozen frost-bitten leaves; pure waste of emotion, doubtless; lacking my vast experience he could not miss what he had never known. The sugar-maker finds moths about the sap, in March, if the day is warm and sunny, though the snow is a yard deep. And here, in the sunny glades of the woods, a mazy dance of mosquitos is going on,—whether the bare ground wears a verdant mat of brookline (*Chrysosplenium*, "plenty of gold,") from the orange stamens or is buried in snow, makes no difference so long as the sun shines. The first breath from the north sends all these creatures off to sleep again, and then screaming winds, laden with snow dust and zero weather are nothing to them,—winter, instead of killing, preserves them; they would, no doubt, last many years if kept cold.

In the later winter, long before the grass has thought of growing, while the ground is frozen hard and snow-covered much of the time, you may find a beautiful fungus in the woods growing from rotten sticks, half a dozen together sometimes, and as true a snow plant as the crimson *Sarcodes sanguinea* of California, which, by the way, is a near relative of our colorless Indian Pipe; it is the "red cup," *Peziza coccinea*. Its cup is from half an inch to two inches across, mostly wider than deep, outwardly white and tapering to a thick stem, and of the brightest, richest scarlet within; not many red flowers can compare with its



MISTLETOE.

worthy to make offerings of evergreen branches for decorative purposes. The *Pinus Australis*, or long-leaved Pine of the south has always been admired. The needle like leaves are thrice the length of *Pinus rigida* or Pitch Pine, and the cones are as large and long as a Sugar

picture frames. The evergreen fern, of which there are several native species, are also among the most valuable plants which are easily obtained in most localities where woodlands are accessible. These, for winter decorations, are highly desirable and add a peculiar charm of their own. GEORGIE TORREY DRENNAN.



flaming color which, like the winter insects, is preserved by cold and snow; a few warm days and its cup is as black as coal and dusty with its ripe spores. The red stratum, which has the thickness of a card, shines through the white outside at the thin margin and altogether the red cup is quite a success.

When winter at last begins to retreat and we have the bare, brown earth growing firmer under foot, it seems at times, though no growth has yet begun, that Nature is bethinking herself of the multitudes of flowers and fruits the season is to bring forth, of the enormous labors which are yet a pleasure of the next few months. I should perhaps fail to detect this mood of Nature were I seeing my first spring; it is, possibly a reflected light cast from my own memory and experience. However it may be, the evergreen ferns and canes, the brookline and tiarella leaves, and all the other greenery is a sort of new creation; after a snowy winter this woodland carex (*C. plantaginea*?) with a tuft of leaves a foot long and an inch wide, has almost a tropical look. Its flowers, not the earliest, are yet early; though not of the Indian corn family, it follows much the same process,—there is a dark brown tassel of stamens at the top of the stem and several little ears from sheaths near the base,—or spikelets looking like ears. This display is in the future; the liverworts will pass on nearly before it; but here in the damp woodland are patches of the *Cardamine rotundifolia* (no common name that I know), three inches high and already showing a pink flush at the tips of its clustering flower buds,—a bit of spring in the midst of winter, for the ground is frozen and patched with old hard snow, while the rounded, radical leaves cover the ground. I never noticed its starting in the fall, but perhaps it does; if not, it must grow under the snow all winter. Its flowers would pass for those of the garden radish, of whose family it is, clustered on a stem a foot high, early, but not so early as its habit of winter growth would seem to call for; its little tubers, though hot and peppery, are edible.

The Hair Cap moss, *Polytrichum juniperum*, and others of like habit, improve the winter days in sending up the polished stems which are to bear their seed-vessels. A delicate tinge of fresh growth and color clothes the old, weather-beaten knolls in some places. So, by looking closely enough, you may discern symptoms of spring at almost any time, and you may dream of it at leisure, so long as the earth is bare in March or April, but

any morning the day may dawn on a world buried in snow, and it seems as though the sun must be utterly discouraged. I know that I am, at least, The trees and bushes are heavily decorated, the snow foliage is denser than the summer leaves, and as a fog from the north may adorn the earth with rime, it is all very pretty, but it is not spring, and it tires me to think of the vast energy that must be expended before all this snow has gone down the creeks. Still I am aware that growth of grass can go on under it; it seems to fertilize wild leeks and adder-tongues especially; the latter

even force a way through old snow,

cultivated. Here, in this section and in New Orleans, it is more generally cultivated than any other palm. It is one of the hardiest, probably quite the hardiest, of all the pinnate leaved palms, slow in growth, and very enduring when the fronds have attained maximum size and length. These fronds are the picture of grace in their outward arching form, and are of a deep rich green; lasting long when cut, they are extensively used by florists in decorations.

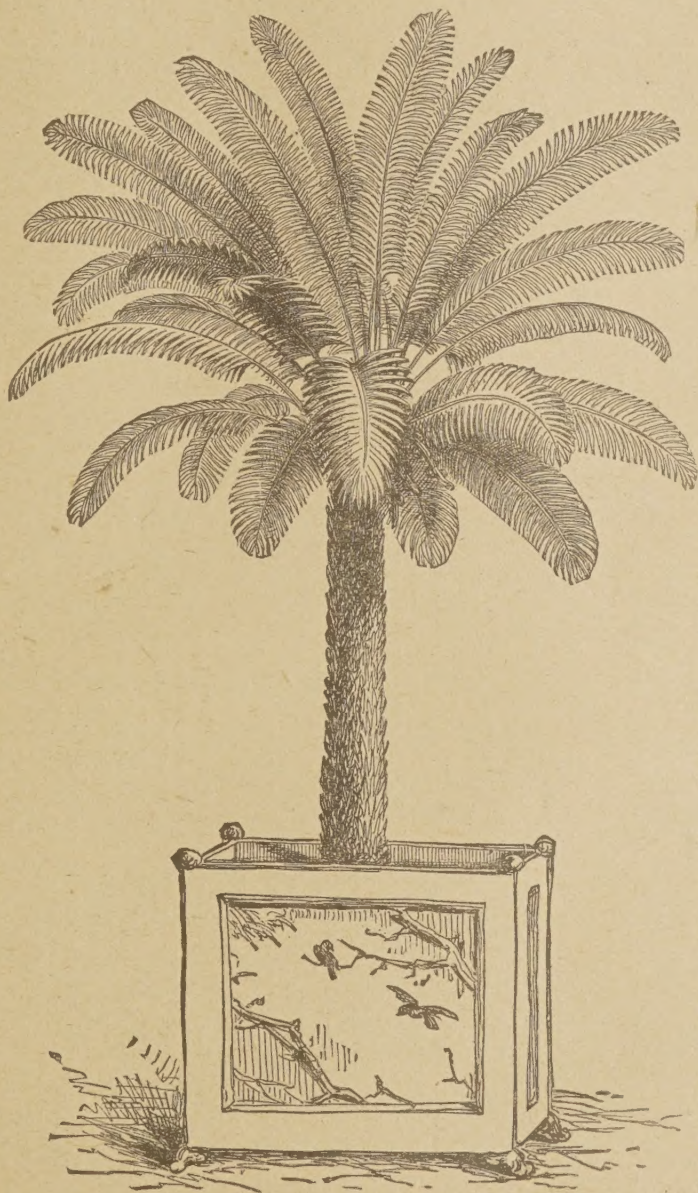
In the most exposed positions upon lawns here, in New Orleans, and other points of the same latitude, it endures freezing without injury, if the freeze is slight.

Such unusual cold as befell the country in 1895 wrought great injury to the leaves or branches. But the roots and trunks were not impaired, as the renewed growth of the succeeding summer has proved. The young frond is beautiful and novel, like an up-turned cup in shape, a clustered mass of a tender reddish hue, the whole looks like a large flower. As growth advances the color deepens to green, and the fronds turn outward, in arching outline, graceful, feathery and beautiful.

One peculiar fact, in the recovery of these Cycads from last winter's heavy freeze, is hard to explain: The young Cycads endured the cold, and revived into quicker growth, better than the older, larger, taller, and presumably, stronger plants. Specimens not over two feet rallied and put forth new leaves early in the season; the larger ones followed next, then the largest; and these latter are barely showing signs of life yet. The Cycas partakes of the nature of the arborescent fern, and consolidates its trunk from the exterior, instead of from the heart, like the oak, pine and other trees. Whether this has anything to do with the comparatively young palms having greater vitality to re-act, than the older trunks, is at least, worthy the suggestion. The semi-tropical nature of the Cycas, (and the *Zamia integrifolia*), has in it much to recommend the plant for general greenhouse culture; amateurs can not fail with it, if they understand the general principles of the care of a green house. The slow growth of the Cycas is an advantage. If a plant is secured to ornament a certain apartment, or fill a specified position, there need be no fear of too rapid

or over-growth, for the desired end. Could I have but one palm for my greenhouse, it is the *Cycas revoluta* I would select. Its hardy constitution—as we say, in praise of a friend, “always the same,” recommends it, above all its other indisputable charms. So many of them are cultivated in New Orleans, and vicinity, so familiar are residents here with its peculiarities, that mistakes are not likely to occur in descriptions. Its very attractive, yet sturdy characteristics furnish object lessons, on all sides, in this section. *Zamia integrifolia* is nearly allied to the Cycas, but is not quite as handsome. The fern-like divisions of the leaf are broader and therefore not so feathery and graceful.

G. T. D.



CYCAS REVOLUTA.

or rather ice, at a time when the bare ground has not a sign of growth; the bounds of the snow patch are shown long after it has finally gone, by the extra size of the adder-tongue leaves. The buttercup also sends up thick blanched leaf stalks through an old drift when its comrades on the bare ground have not started in the least.

E. S. GILBERT.

#### CYCAS REVOLUTA.

GRAY says, in his botany, this is erroneously called the Sago palm. While this is true, yet it is commonly called “Sago palm” where it is generally





# AMONG THE EVERGLADES AND THE SEMINOLE INDIANS.

ALMOST every one has heard of the Everglades, those mighty swamps stretching from the Atlantic ocean to the Gulf of Mexico, and from Cape Sabal beyond the mighty Lake Okeechobee, and covering thousands of square miles—the largest tract of swamp lands within the confines of the United States and, perhaps, of the North American continent. Although of such enormous extent, yet how little do people in general know about their character. Perhaps if they have any idea as to what they are like, they imagine a great extent of slimy, filthy mud, covered with a dense growth of swamp vegetation. Nothing could be farther from the truth, and I shall try to tell my readers something of what the Everglades are like. In the first place I will say that they have never been thoroughly explored, the white man has never set foot on the greater part of them, and as no other tract of land in the United States is so little known it might well be called the Africa of the United States. I shall endeavor to state my opinion as to what caused the formation of the Everglades. We have already seen that the extreme southern part of Florida was formed by the coral insect, and, therefore, was submerged, and by some great force of nature must have been lifted to its present position. However that may be, the main body of the Everglades are from three to four or more feet above tide-water, but between them and the bay and gulf lies a high, narrow ridge of rocky land, sloping abruptly toward the bay, but gradually towards the Everglades; thus we see this ridge is like a great drum, and forms a basin where the water accumulates. The rivers forming the principal outlets for the waters of the Glades are few and small, the Miami and New rivers on the east and the Shark on the southwest, being the principle ones, and are insufficient to carry off the waters during the greater part of the year. These rivers, together with the great river-like prairies—mentioned in a former article—and the waters of which generally find an underground outlet and rise in the form of springs on the bay side of the ridge are the only outlets, and during the rainy season the water accumulates until every prairie is like a river, and much of the pine lands are only a few inches above water. My readers will now understand that the Everglades are a vast stretch of

nearly level land with a great rim or dam around the outside, forming a great basin. My first trip into the Glades was made early one spring in company with a friend of mine—a Florida “cracker”—an old timer, and well acquainted with the country. Although the summer rains had not set in, we found plenty of water in the prairies, many of which we had to cross, and in some places the water reached to our arm-pits, and together with the rank saw grass made walking very disagreeable. The strips of pine lands which alternated with the prairies were covered with the usual growth of zamias and saw palmettos, but gradually got lower as we approached the glades, finally merging into one vast prairie of saw grass, and we were on the edge of the Everglades. I cannot better describe them than to say that they are like a great sea of saw-grass prairies, covered in places with great brakes of canes or reeds, and interspersed with the most beautiful little keys or islands of various sizes and shapes, and covered with the most luxuriant of evergreen vegetation. Sometimes one of these little islands could be seen far in the distance with some lofty palm towering far above the surrounding vegetation and in bold relief against the sky. Dotted over the saw-grass were the most beautiful little lakes of the clearest of pure waters and teeming with fish of various sorts, all of which could be plainly seen, even when in very deep water, so clear was it. On the edges of these lakes and along the outlets were great clumps of cane—not the bamboo cane of further north—or reeds, frequently twenty feet in height and crowned with great plume-like heads. Nymphæas and various water plants grow on the edges of the lakes, and great patches of crinums, acres in extent, now in full bloom and loading the air with fragrance, forming a most beautiful sight, were to be seen. The water was all clear and pure. There was no green scum or loathsome smell generally to be found in swamps. The most disagreeable feature in getting about either in boat or on foot was the weather being warm. We did not mind the water, but it was the great tangled masses of the ever-present saw-grass, the sharply serrated edges of the blades of which will cut like a knife. It is impossible to properly describe the vegetation on the keys. They vary in size from less than an acre to a hundred or more; the soil is of extreme fertility, and near the outer edges is swampy and covered with the most luxuriant growth of the cocoa plum (*Chrysobalanus Icaco*), the long sprawling branches of which cross and recross each other, forming a most intricate mass of vegetation, and the only way to get through them is either to cut a road through or crawl under the branches, neither of which is very pleasant. After passing this tangle of cocoa plums, one reaches higher ground which

is covered with a heavy growth of trees of many beautiful species—pigeon plums (*Coccoloba*), rubber tree, mastic, gumbo limbo, and a host of others. Great lianas climb from tree to tree, and great masses of moonvines hang in festoons from the tops of the trees, the whole forming a picture of extreme luxuriance, such as cannot be found elsewhere in the United States. As already stated the soil of these keys is very fertile, but as they are so nearly inaccessible they are uncultivated save by the Seminoles, who have many little fields scattered over the glades. Perhaps but few of my readers were aware that this part of Florida has quite an Indian population, some of whom are direct descendants of the famous Osceola and “Billy Bowlegs,” who, when the government transported the Indians west, hid in the dense swamps and escaped. Many old men are yet living who well remember those times. One old fellow, by name “Dr. Jim,” who frequently visited our settlement told me all about it. He was a boy of sixteen at that time, he said, the soldiers killed his father and brothers and he and his mother hid in the swamps. He confidently told me that “he heap big Injun doctor, make ’em well.” I consider the Seminoles of Florida the finest type of Indians in the United States. They are tall and dignified and splendid physical specimens of manhood. They present an imposing as well as amusing spectacle when rigged out in holiday attire. Imagine a tall Indian with an immense turban on his head formed out of a large, bright colored shawl, wrapped around a circular shaped frame work so as to leave the top of the head bare, a coat reaching to his knees made of the brightest of large flowered calico with many ruffles and frills, buckskin leggins and moccasins, and the ever present Winchester rifle. Once every year they have a great national dance called the “green corn dance” and held about the time that the corn is fit for roasting, and all the Indians from the various villages assemble at some place selected and spend about two weeks in dancing and feasting. A tall pole is set in the ground decorated with ears of green corn, around which they dance. They live in little villages of several families each, and one that I visited was situated on the edge of a strip of dry pine land near the border of the glades and consisted of some six or eight houses. The ground around and near the houses was perfectly bare. The houses are built on posts set in the ground from ten to twenty feet apart, have a raised floor and are built of “puncheons” hewed from trunks of trees; the roofs are thatched and made of cabbage palm leaves, four sided, and the most perfect job of that kind I have ever seen, as every joint was made to fit perfectly, and the roofs were quite ornamental; the sides of



the houses are open to the weather. They rarely have their fields near the village, and in one of my trips to the Glades I came across a path and on following it up found that it led to a small key, and by crawling through a tunnel-like opening fringed with cocoa plums, found myself in a newly cleared field of some four acres in extent, in the rich soil of which were growing luxuriantly young corn, potatoes and pumpkin vines, all planted together. These Indians are well to do, raise plenty of vegetables, make starch, game is plenty, and they make considerable money killing alligators and birds, the skins and plumes of which they sell, and it is not unusual that an Indian brings to the store \$50 or \$70 worth at one time. Some are better to do than many of the whites, are peaceable and hospitable when you visit them, they rarely beg and I never knew them to steal, though they were frequently in our settlement.

MARTIN BENSON.

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#### A SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF LINNÆUS.

**T**HIS little sketch is based upon a life of Linnæus, by D. H. Stoeve, Ph. D. (translated from the original German by Joseph Trapp). The book was published over a hundred years ago. The style is very quaint, and the enthusiasm with which the author describes the genius of Linnæus renders it extremely interesting.

He says, for instance, that "Sweden found in Linnæus the most systematic genius of the age, the most intimate and scrutinizing minion that ever graced the bosom of nature; who rendered her knowledge the most regular and the most cultivated, and became her teacher in all parts of the world. Never was the name of any literatus of his nation or of northern Europe at large, spread so far, honored so devoutly and rendered so immortal as his."

Although the name and character of the works of Linnæus are familiar to every one, some details of his life may not prove uninteresting.

His ancestors were sturdy peasants, some of whom 'left the plow to court the muse,' and, according to an old custom in Sweden of sometimes taking new names from natural objects, they took their name from a lofty linden tree which stood in the vicinity of their native place.

The father of Linnæus was pastor of the little village of Rashult and when Charles was born, (1707), his father, like so many fond parents before and since, planned his future for him. Charles would fulfill the dearest hopes of his mother and father, if they could see him in the pulpit of their village church as his father's successor. The father himself, however, took great pleasure in gardening. Their income being small, he cultivated the vegetables for their own use.

He also had a great love for flowers, his garden containing several hundred species of plants. Charles was oftentimes quieted and amused by the bright colored flowers from the garden and he soon learned to love this bright spot. He played and lived among the growing plants. When he was eight years old he was given a spot of ground for a garden of his own. He took great pleasure in cultivating it and was bent upon equaling his father. He made short excursions to the fields and woods, collecting whatever came to hand, and much to his father's chagrin, many objectionable weeds thus found their way into his own cherished garden. Day by day the little enthusiast became more intimate with nature and his father was quite willing that he should indulge himself in this way, since collecting and studying plants stood in lieu of the companionship of other children, and at the same time was conducive to his health. But childhood cannot always last, and Linnæus' father now thought it high time that his son should take up a regular course of study, and he himself instructed him in the rudiments of Latin, religion and geography, with a view to preparing him for entering upon his theological studies.

When Linnæus was ten years old he was sent to a Latin school, but he found more pleasure in wandering through fields and groves gathering flowers than in trying to master dull lessons. Fortunately his teacher was somewhat of a botanist and appreciated the young enthusiast, but his schoolmates dubbed him the truant and the idler of the school. How little we yet understand just what constitutes idleness, growth or development. After seven years of apparently fruitless effort in this Latin school, Linnæus was sent to a gymnasium in Wexicoe, his parents hoping that new surroundings would have a salutary influence over him and perhaps imbue him with the zeal and earnestness for his theological studies, which was so obviously wanting. But it was in vain. He still worshipped at Flora's shrine, and the many admonitions and reproofs which were lavished upon him concerning the importance of closer application, were fruitless. His progress in his studies were so discouraging that his teachers complained to his father because of his stupidity.

This was a blow to the fond parents who had planned such a bright future for him, as pastor of their little village church. And now since Linnæus failed to respond to their most cherished hopes, in his studies, they considered it useless to expend any more money in what seemed but vain endeavors to give him an education. After much discussion upon the subject, they resolved to bind him as apprentice to a shoemaker. How often those who are to become the renowned of the world, are forced by cir-

cumstances into an uncongenial sphere. Luther was destined by his father for a lawyer, and Shakespeare was at one time obliged to work in a butcher shop.

It does seem that—

"There is a divinity that shapes our ends  
Rough hew them as we will."

We cannot censure Linnæus' father, whose only thought was for the welfare of his son. He felt it his duty to render his son able to earn his own livelihood. Since he had failed in his efforts to make a minister of him, he would try the shoemakers trade. But just in the nick of time—a novelist could not have planned it better—a certain Dr. Rothman, professor of medicine in Wexicoe, heard that Linnæus was about to be removed from school and apprenticed to a shoemaker. The good doctor interceded in behalf of the youth, offered to take him into his own home free of charge and instruct him privately in physiology. The parents finally yielded to this kind proposition. Under Rothman, Linnæus made rapid progress. He had studied hitherto without plan or system. After three years of successful work, he entered the university of Lund at the age of twenty. He went to the university expecting to make his home with a relative, but upon his arrival, he learned that his relative had just died, and he was thus thrown upon his own resources, alone, friendless, and with very slender means. But here again fortune favored him. He was taken into the family of a physician and botanist of the city, where in the words of his biographer, "he was received free of charge, though he made himself useful to his benefactor." Here his opportunities for promoting his studies were abundant. He now saw for the first time a well arranged collection in natural history, which proved very helpful. After a time he decided to go to Upsal, where poverty still haunted his footsteps. He was reduced to such extreme circumstances that in a small way he was obliged to resort to the trade which his father had resolved he should follow. He had scarcely a penny to his name, and took the old cast-off shoes of his companions, mending them with stiff cords and the bark of trees, in order that he might still be able to take long tramps after flowers.

He suffered from hunger and was glad to pick up a meal where he could. But, even though reduced to such extreme poverty, nothing could quell his enthusiasm. It was proposed at this time by the Academy of Science to send some one to explore Lapland. Linnæus undertook the journey at the expense of the Academy. He went alone, starting out upon the expedition on horse back. He also traveled 150 miles on foot over the lonely mountains, suffering much from the cold inclement weather and insufficient food, but, to use his own words, "the invaluable fruits which I reaped from these excursions compensated for every toil."

TO BE CONTINUED.



## Letter Box.

In this department we shall be pleased to answer any questions relating to Flowers, Vegetables and Plants, or to publish the experiences of our readers. JAMES VICK

### Lemon Lily.

Received in May a Lemon lily bulb (*Hemerocallis flava*). It was immediately potted and has grown finely all summer. When is its usual resting season? Ought it to rest now? The ends of a few leaves are turning yellow, which led me to think I might not be giving it the proper care. There is no sign of a flower bud. When ought they to appear? L.  
*Badito, Colo.*

This plant should have been put in the ground. All that can be done now is to keep it in the pot, and keep the soil a little moist all the time, give it as cool a place as possible, without subjecting to frost, and turn it out of the pot and into the ground early in the spring.

### Hibiscus Sunset.

My Sunset Hibiscus made a good growth and finally sent up a strong stem filled with buds, but frosts came before blooming. Is this the usual habit of the plant? If so it will be of little value, at least to me.  
J. H. S.

*Elmira, N. Y.*

The Sunset Hibiscus is of southern origin and requires a long season of bloom. We have had plants bloom this fall which were started from seeds in March, but the blooming was late. It is probable that the plants having become established may bloom earlier another year. But we fear that it is a plant better adapted to a more southern locality where the seasons are longer.

### Slugs in the Garden.

I planted gypsophila several times this summer and every time it came up the slugs would eat the tender plants. What can I do to prevent them from destroying these plants?  
M. J. McK.  
*Wilkinsburg, Pa.*

Slugs can be trapped by placing cabbage leaves or slices of potato about where they will be apt to find them and feed on them. Then by going out at night with a lantern they can be caught and destroyed by throwing them into a pail or dish containing salt. Where it is wanted to protect a few plants, as in the case mentioned, some powdered lime can be scattered about, forming a ring ground the plants. They will not go through the lime. A ring of salt would also keep them away—it might have to be renewed.

### Caladium Esculentum Blooming.

Four years ago I planted out a half dozen bulbs of *Caladium esculentum*, and have taken up the roots and kept them over each winter in my cellar, planting them out again in the spring. By giving them plenty of water they make a huge growth every summer. One day last August I found springing from the center of one of the bunches, a huge white bud. I did not know they ever bloomed. Hence my surprise, and this letter to inquire if I am simply ignorant, or is it something unusual? The stalk on which the bud grows is about a foot long and springs from the last leaf stalk like the bloom of a calla lily, and the bud proper is about eight inches long.  
W. O. L.  
*Springfield, Ill.*

We occasionally hear of a circumstance like that narrated above. With good culture, and especially if the season is a

warm one, as was the past summer, this *Caladium* will come into bloom even in the northern states. It is not a common occurrence, and yet it has been reported to us from different parts of the country, for the past twenty-five years.

### Columbian Raspberry.

J. G. S. of Memphis, Tenn., asks what we yet think of the Columbian raspberry. We can only say that we fully satisfied ourselves of the merits of this fruit, by most careful examination, observation and inquiry before it was offered for sale. Still, another year's experience with it may be considered of some importance. If so, we have only to say that we are more fully convinced than ever of the very great superiority of this raspberry, in many respects. Its great vigor is phenomenal, and we have the testimony of numerous persons who planted it last spring, in regard to its wonderful growth. Some of the spring set plants even bearing a small crop of fruit. The excellent quality of the fruit, its great productiveness, its splendid qualities for canning and drying, have none of them been over-estimated or over-stated. As a berry for profit it stands without a peer.

### Tobacco Allies—Plants at Windows.

Please tell me what other plants are allied to the tobacco plant,—belong to the same genus.

Does it hinder plants from blooming in the house if they are turned? If so, how can we prevent them from growing all on one side if they are not turned?  
F. B.

*Wolcott, Ind.*

The tobacco plant, *Nicotiana tabacum*, belongs to the natural order or family Solanaceæ. It is quite a large family, embracing many genera and species. The plants of many of the genera have narcotic and poisonous properties, such as the deadly nightshade, *Atropa belladonna*; and the henbane, *Hioscyamus niger*; Jimson weed, *Datura Stramonium*; nightshade, *Solanum nigrum*; as well as tobacco which contains a deadly principle. The tomato and the potato are both members of the family; so is the ground cherry or strawberry tomato, *Physalis alkekengi* and the Capsicum or red pepper. Of plants cultivated for their flowers may be mentioned *nolana*, *petuia*, *nierembergia*, *lycium* or matrimony vine, and *cestrum*.

Plants at the window will be better formed, and better in other respects if they are regularly and frequently turned so that all parts may have the benefit of the light.

### Sweet Pea Bride of Niagara.

I have read with great interest all that has appeared in your publication about the double sweet pea, and think it must be a handsome and desirable variety, and hope to have it in my garden next season. I do not think it is any objection that only a portion of the flowers are double, but one would like to be sure when purchasing it that he would have some flowers for all his trouble.  
F. L.  
*Springfield, Mass.*

We should be sorry to make any misrepresentations about this beautiful new

variety of sweet pea. The originator of the Bride of Niagara is a person of the strictest veracity, and claims to have cultivated it for its double blossoms for two or three years before it came into our possession. We have had it under observation for two years. This year a large proportion of the flowers were double, nearly half, or it might be nearer to say that nearly half of the flower stems had some double flowers, for, although all the flowers on a stem are sometimes double, yet sometimes a part are double and a part single. Not all of the plants produce double flowers; in this respect it is like all other plants which commence to bear double flowers, only a part of them being double. The number of double flowers will undoubtedly be increased after a few years of careful breeding. But we think no one who may raise it next season will have any cause for complaint in regard to its double flowers. They were greatly admired by all who saw them during the past summer.

### Propagating Currants.

Please print directions in the Magazine for propagating currants from cuttings.  
I. O. D.  
*Lowville, N. Y.*

Currant cuttings should be made from the shoots of the last growth—that is from the well ripened wood formed the previous summer. They should be cut into lengths of about eight or ten inches. This can be done in the winter or early spring before there is any sign of the buds starting; the cuttings can be tied in bundles and kept in the cellar, standing the butt ends in sand, and keeping them in this way until a place can be prepared for planting them early in spring. Make a trench and set them in, against the side, leaving only one or two eyes above ground. Or, if the soil is light, the cuttings can be inserted with a dibble. A very favorable time for making and setting the cuttings is early in September. At that time the wood is ripe and can be taken off and the leaves removed, and made into cuttings and set as already described. There is an advantage, at this season, in a warm soil which has the tendency to cause the cuttings to callous and commence to root in a few weeks; thus they have an early start in the spring and make a much stronger growth the following summer. Fall planted cuttings should be mulched with leaves or litter to prevent heaving of the ground by frost.

### Abutilon Souvenir de Bonn.

I have seen it stated that the new silver edged abutilon, *Souvenir de Bonn* can be used as a bedding plant. Can you advise it for this purpose?  
W. H.  
*Columbus, Ohio.*

The abutilon is a beautiful plant in the open ground. It would not do to cut it as done with *coleus*, *achyrantes* and some other bedding plants. But it may be planted to grow unchecked, as are *cannas*, *fuchsias* and other plants.



**THE EARLY LEADER TOMATO.**

SOME years since it was thought that the end had been reached in obtaining early varieties of tomatoes, but there appears to be a steady progress in this direction, and one would be bold who would dare to say that there can be none earlier than the earliest now in cultivation. But besides earliness a tomato must have other qualities to commend it, to make it desirable. A good early tomato is very refreshing in its season, and there are few who are accustomed to the use of this vegetable who do not look forward with some longing to its first appearance in summer. The market gardener has no difficulty in finding customers for his earliest produce, in fact the customers are anticipating the appearance of the beautiful red fruits.

The Early Leader, a variety which originated on the grounds of Mr. L. C. Wright of Oswego county, in this State, is undoubtedly earlier than any of the standard varieties now cultivated, and enough earlier to make it a decided acquisition

a large number of them, but all small ones. The Early Leader, in short, is good enough, and it brings the early tomatoes. I shall plant more extensively of it another year, and more sparingly of later sorts."

A contributor to *American Gardening* of August 24, says:

"If we had planted a larger patch of the Early Leader, instead of one or two dozen plants, we would have been able to supply the whole neighborhood

handsome color, combining the most desirable qualities, and the plants are remarkably productive. It is apparent, therefore, that the Early Leader is so real an improvement in tomatoes that it merits the attention of all cultivators of this healthful and refreshing vegetable,



*Plant of the Early Leader Tomato, showing its mode of bearing and its great productiveness.*



THE EARLY LEADER TOMATO.

either for the market grower or the private garden. It has a solid flesh throughout, is of good size, and the flavor is all that can be desired. It is earlier than Ruby, King of the Earlies, Advance and other early varieties. The fruit grows in large clusters, sometimes fourteen to nineteen in a cluster. A writer in the *Farm and Fireside* of October 15, who had made a trial of it the past season, has the following to say in regard to it:

"For some years we have used the Early Ruby, although we continually kept finding fault with it. It was early, anyway, and fairly good besides. This year I tried the EARLY LEADER, and also planted largely of the New Imperial. Both were recommended as extra early. In the former we have an early tomato indeed. It sets its fruit even earlier than the Ruby, and this in great clusters from the start. It reminded me somewhat of the King of the Earlies, but the fruit is much smoother and much better generally. As may be inferred from the appearance of a cross section of one of the larger specimens, the fruit is quite solid, and is of good quality, too. I do not like the few large seed cavities as we find them in Early Advance, King of the Earlies, and other first class tomatoes. I want

with tomatoes at a time when they were in ready demand at fancy prices.

The originator of this variety has raised it for a number of seasons, and has sold his entire crop in open market, receiving from eight to ten cents a pound for it, and "clearing up" his patch long before such varieties as Ruby, King of the Earlies and Advance.

The fruit is of good size, smooth and round and of a

**THE GREEN MOUNTAIN SQUASH.**

The Hubbard squash since its introduction has been one of the most extensively grown vegetables in this country, and has filled a place occupied by no other. It now has a rival and superior, the Green Mountain, which originated in Northern Vermont. This squash is uniformly round, symmetrical and larger than the Hubbard. The rind is thin but hard, the flesh a deep orange red, sweeter than the Hubbard. It cooks very quickly and evenly, and is the best of all squashes for pies, and is a delicious table vegetable. The vine is hardy, vigorous, and perfectly matures a large crop.

## Cures Whooping Cough.

"Three of my children were recently sick at one time with whooping cough. I found that Ayer's Cherry Pectoral relieved them, as nothing else would, when they were nearly breathless with coughing."—CHAS. E. ROGERS, Barre, Mass.

## Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

Highest Honors at World's Fair.

For Debility, take AYER'S the only World's Fair Sarsaparilla.





ROCHESTER, N. Y., DECEMBER, 1895.

Entered in the Post Office at Rochester, N. Y., as second class mail matter.

*Vick's Monthly Magazine* is published at the following rates, either for old or new subscribers.

These rates include postage:

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One copy twenty-seven months (two and one-fourth years), full payment in advance, One Dollar.

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\$1.25 per agate line per month; \$1.18 for 3 months, or 200 lines; \$1.12 for six months, or 400 lines; \$1.06 for 9 months, or 600 lines; \$1.00 for 1 year, or 1000 lines. One line extra charged for less than five.

All communications in regard to advertising to Vick Publishing Co., New York office, 38 Times Building, H. P. Hubbard, Manager.

**200,000**

Average Monthly Circulation.

#### Strawberries in Delaware.

Strawberry growers may be interested in a report on strawberries made by M. H. Beckwith, horticulturist, at the Delaware College Experiment station, at Newark, Delaware. This report is made in Bulletin 28 of that station. The number of varieties there under cultivation is 71, and a note is made in regard to each one of them, giving their general behavior as well as the results of the past season. From these notes the author deduces the following:

#### SUMMARY.

**Best Early Varieties**—Meek's, Michel, Smeltzer, Crystal City.

**Best for Market and Profit**—Bubach, Brandywine, Greenville, Haverland, Meek's, Michel, Phillips.

**Best for Home Use**—Beverly, Bomba, Brandywine, Eureka, Greenville, Meek's, Michel, Sharpless.

Two new varieties are mentioned which "make an excellent showing on the grounds of the originator, and have every appearance of being valuable acquisitions to the list of profitable varieties." The following descriptions are given:

**IDEAL**—A strong, vigorous plant with perfect blossoms; fruit large to very large, calyx prominent. The berry is broadly heart-shaped, very uniform in shape, never coxcombed; color bright scarlet; flesh very firm, deep scarlet throughout, quality excellent. Vines very productive. Begins ripening about four days ahead of Bubach and continues in bearing much longer.

**ORIOLE**—Plant a vigorous grower, with pistillate blossoms; fruit large to very large, very similar in shape to Bubach; dark scarlet color, seeds sufficiently prominent to make it a first-class shipper; flesh very firm, deep scarlet color to the very centre, rich and high flavor, very productive. Season about three days later than Michel.

In response to inquiries sent out by the station, twenty prominent strawberry

growers reported on varieties, and from these answers it appears that the Bubach is the leading variety for general cultivation in Delaware. It is the most productive and profitable variety, Haverland taking second place. Gandy is considered the best shipper, with Bubach closely following and Meek's taking third place.

Sharpless is the favorite for home use, with Gandy for second choice. Michel and Haverland are equally popular as early varieties, with Meek's closely following. Gandy takes the lead as a late variety, with Enhance as second choice.

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#### Horticultural Competition.

There was never a time in this country when competition was so fierce as now among all the products of the farm and the garden. Fruit growing has become so general that all sections of the country compete with each other, and the immense quantities of foreign fruits brought into our market tend to keep down the prices of our home-grown supplies.

An enormous competition similarly exists among the various articles raised by florists. The numbers who are now engaged in this business are able to produce supplies which at times completely swamp the markets. The result is that many growers frequently receive less than cost for their products.

We are often amazed at the temerity of people who rush into horticultural pursuits with little or no knowledge of them, and with no skill or experience. It is impossible that such ventures can often succeed. Only the best products, whether fruits, flowers or plants can meet with sales which will give a living profit, and these can be produced only by those skilled in their cultivation and who exercise untiring care and energy. Every successful cultivator must keep abreast of the times in all matters relating to his trade, and especially in all information disseminated by the horticultural press. Progress is being made in every direction and those who are best informed will have the greatest advantages.

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#### Potato Raising With Fertilizers.

Bulletin No. 93 of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station, of Geneva, N. Y., relates to a "Comparative field-test of Commercial Fertilizers used in raising potatoes." The report is an interesting one and we advise those interested in potato growing to send to the station for it. If the present congested states of the potato market should continue from year to year, the subject would have little interest for anyone, but it is impossible that this should be so, and though the crop this season may have been produced at an actual loss, we have no reason to anticipate an immediate recurrence of the same conditions.

#### Important Information for Farmers.

We are in receipt of Bulletin No. 92, of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, on "Analyses of Fertilizers Collected during the spring of 1895." The bulletin gives a brief outline of the work previously done in this line and then presents some useful facts in regard to the composition of fertilizers, explaining the technical terms used in stating the analysis of a fertilizer. Then follow tables giving in detail the analysis of 232 commercial fertilizers.

The information afforded by these tables will be found to be of great value to all who purchase commercial fertilizers, and should be carefully examined and studied, and kept for reference and consultation.

We urge farmers who do not receive the station's bulletins to forward a postal card asking for the publications, which are sent free to any farmer applying.

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#### How to Study Strangers by Temperament, Face and Head.

By NELSON SIZER, 380 pages. Octavo. Over 300 illustrations. Cloth, \$1.50. New York: Fowler & Wells Co., Publishers, 27 East Twenty-first street.

The author of this work has for more than half a century been engaged in the study of human character, and as the result of such long and varied experience has produced a book, the object of which is to teach one how to read the character of the stranger, or the friend, how to discern the human mind, how to unfold the nature of a man that one may read him as he is. It is eminently practical in its teachings, simple and pointed in its language.

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#### Reduction in Railroad Freights.

The railroad companies have agreed to carry seed grains, wheat, rye, oats, corn and barley, at the same rates as ordinary grain, after January 1, 1896. This will be of very general advantage to farmers and gardeners. Much credit is due Mr. J. A. Everitt, of Indianapolis, Indiana, for his persistent and energetic work to bring about this change.

## On Top

No other preparation has ever equalled in success, sales, or cures, the wonderful record of Hood's Sarsaparilla. It has a record of cures unknown to any other preparation. Its sales are the largest in the world, and the Laboratory in which it is prepared in the largest building on earth devoted exclusively to the medicine business.

## Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the One True Blood Purifier.

Hood's Pills are mild and effective.



## POTTING SOIL.

**M**UCH of our success with pot plants depends on the soil used, and for that reason I give my way of preparing it, as I think it a good one.

When one has a good rich garden, the soil from such a spot is good enough for most plants when first potted; later they should be enriched with bone meal, barn yard manure or other fertilizers.

When such earth is not available one can follow this plan: Early in spring take pieces of sod, cut as for use in sodding a lawn, and pile them up, grass side down, in a compact heap in some out of the way corner; along with them pack in any vegetable refuse, as weeds, grass clippings, and dead leaves. When the sods are nearly all in the pile, leave a space in the center so that when completed a hollow spot is left, in which to pour dish-water and other slops from the house. It also gives a chance for rain to settle into the heap and the water helps the sods to rot quickly; this combined with the heat of the sun makes the pile mellow. By late fall the heap will be found thoroughly rotted, and after the dirt has been turned and well mixed, the result will be a fine soil that with the help of a little manure will be the best potting soil one can find; it will not pack, but is porous and mellow. I sometimes mix in a few shovelfull of manure and some unleached wood-ashes along with the sods, when piling them, and then all the soil needs in the fall is a thorough mixing. As a general rule it is best to sift the soil before using; this pulverizes it and removes all refuse and hard lumps and any earth worms that may be in it, and leaves it in good condition for the fine roots to work in.

In some of our cities men make a business of furnishing potting soil to those who have no other way to procure it. Most of our florists have it for sale; however in all but large cities most people can provide their own. Some florists advocate baking the soil before using to kill all insect germs and weed seeds. As far as my experience goes I do not believe in it, though I have not tested it thoroughly. It seems as if the heat may take away some of the essential properties of the soil, thus doing harm instead of good.

A man, I knew of once, read of the great benefit to be obtained by the use of ashes on soil that was partly clay; so he procured a great quantity of brush from some timber land near by and drew it on his land. It was put in large piles and burned and the ashes scattered over the lot. The next season he waited patiently to see the increase in yield in his garden and found to his sorrow that in every spot where the fire had been the crop was very poor, only a few seeds germinating and they growing very weak. Between the spots where the fires had been, there was a good yield, showing that the ashes had improved the soil, but the heat had impoverished it.

The quantity of fertilizer used varies with different plants; chrysanthemums and callas are such gross feeders that it is hard to give them too much. For roses a good garden soil well mixed with the rotted bark and saw-dust from an old wood-pile, and some well rotted manure, will be found good. Often a little sand is a vast improvement to some soils, a heavy loam or clay needing that element to secure good drainage. A little study will soon show one just what kind of soil is best for each plant, and when these requirements are given we can expect success.

BERNICE BAKER.

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PROPAGATION OF BEGONIAS  
AND SOME OTHER PLANTS  
BY LEAF CUTTINGS.

**T**HE propagation of plants by leaf cuttings is an interesting branch of floriculture in which any amateur may experiment. A shallow pan or basin should be filled with clean, sharp sand. I emphasize the fact that it should be clean, for if it contain vegetable humus or organic matter, the leaves are more apt to decay. The pan should have a few holes in the bottom to insure good drainage and the sand must be kept moist. If the experiments are made in the ordinary living room a shelf midway of the window is better, because warmer, than the window sill. The first week the cuttings must have light but not the full sunshine; a tumbler should also be turned over them, to prevent wilting, removing occasionally to admit air. Leaves of Rex begonias may be rooted in two ways: By inserting about half the length of the stalk in sand; in a few weeks a tiny, new plant will appear at the base of the leaf. By laying the leaf flat upon the sand and cutting across the midrib and largest veins, young plants will start from the cut edges. It is better to cut away the outer portions of the leaf to allow a little circulation of air beneath it.

The leaves of some flowering begonias may also be rooted. *B. argentea guttata*, *B. manicata aurea*, *B. Bruanti* and *B. rubra* can be rooted by inserting half the stalk in sand; the new growth will spring from the foot of the leaf stalk. I have never been able to root any of these from the surface of the leaf, though *Begonia metallica* will root in either way. Leaves of *Hoya carnosa* are easily rooted, and occasionally a new plant will spring from the roots, but it usually takes a number of months for the new plant to appear.

Leaves from the tea rose will also root, but I have succeeded in raising but one plant in that way; probably that leaf had a rudimentary bud attached to the leaf stalk.

Leaves of gloxinias may be rooted in several ways: By the methods given for Rex begonias, or by keeping the stems in water. Leaves selected for experiments

should be *pulled* from the plant, with a downward motion, unless, in the case of Rex begonias and gloxinias, they are to be rooted from the surface. The leaves should be fully grown but must not show any signs of decay.

M.

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## CANNAS AS WINTER PLANTS.

Cannas are among the easiest exotic plants to cultivate, so says J. Douglass in the *Gardener's Chronicle*. The people everywhere in this country are rapidly learning this fact, and yearly making more use of the plant. Mr. Douglass mentions some of the best varieties that are in use in England, and remarks that the plants "are excellent in pots for late autumn and winter culture, and they are agreeable as semi-tropical plants in the flower garden."

\* \* \* Most gardeners have grown the Canna in pots, and few plants are better adapted to furnish the greenhouse or conservatory during the autumn, whilst with a little heat they can be had in flower all through the winter. The plants may be grown to immense size if they are given good loam and decayed manure to grow in, and plenty of pot room. I have had splendid specimens in 12 and 13-inch pots. The plants also like a light and airy position when making their growth."

Our own experience is that the Cannas are admirable greenhouse plants for winter. We have not seen them used as winter window or house plants, and do not know exactly how they would behave under such circumstances, but with judicious treatment they may prove satisfactory.

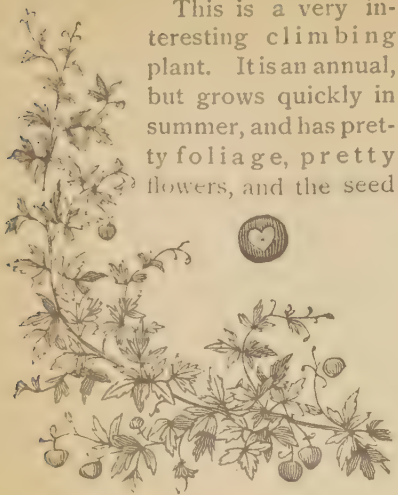
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## APPLES AS MEDICINE.

According to Dr. G. R. Searles, the apple is medicinal in a marked degree. He says: "The apple is such common fruit that very few persons are familiar with its remarkable efficacious medicinal properties. Everybody ought to know that the very best thing they can do is to eat apples just before retiring for the night. Persons uninitiated in the mysteries of the fruit are liable to throw up their hands in horror at the visions of dyspepsia, which such a suggestion may summon up, but no harm can come even to a delicate system by the eating of ripe and juicy apples just before going to bed. The apple is an excellent brain food, because it has more phosphoric acid in easily digestible shape than any other vegetable known. It excites the action of the liver, promotes sound and healthy sleep, and thoroughly disinfects the mouth. This is not all. The apple agglutinates the surplus acids of the stomach, helps the kidney secretions, and prevents calculus growths, while it obviates indigestion, and is one of the best preventives known of diseases of the throat. Everybody should be familiar with such knowledge. In addition, next to the orange and the lemon, it is the best antidote for the thirst and craving of the person addicted to the alcohol or the opium habit."



## THE BALLOON VINE.



CARDIOSPERMUM HALICACABUM.

vessels are inflated, looking like little balloons. The botanical name is *Cardiospermum Halicacabum*. *Cardiospermum* means *heart seed*, and in the engraving is shown the round, black seed with a white heart-shaped figure on one side. The vine is attractive to every one. A correspondent in Mississippi sent a specimen of the foliage and some of the seed vessels in September, with the following note in regard to the vine:

On my back fence, where wood is thrown off, grew this summer, and still grows there the loveliest creeper I have ever seen. It has many branches, festoons itself beautifully, has a small white blossom all over it, produce, pods with seeds in them. I have no commercial interest in it as a flower: but a thing so lovely should be brought to the attention of those who have. I have therefore taken a moment to clip a branch, a green pod and a mature one to send you.  
Clinton, Miss. J. D. C.

The plant is handsome enough to attract attention anywhere, and those who wish to have something rare and pretty, as a climber, to cover a fence or trellis, should bear in mind that the Balloon Vine is very attractive and easily raised from seeds if given a warm sheltered spot fully exposed to the sun.

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## FRUIT FOODS AND DRINKS.

Immense quantities of fruits of different kinds are imported into England, and great encouragement is given to fruit growing there. Still the country is not supplied so freely with fruit, generally, as in this country. However, they have their seasons of abundance with their home grown fruits, as we do here, and then their markets are supplied at a low price with such kinds. The well known horticulturist of Swanley, England, Mr. Henry Cannell, writes in the *Cardener's Chronicle* in relation to the large consumption of apples and plums, the past season, as the result of favorable crops. Here are his words:

The past season will long be remembered for great heat and drought, and the abundance of apples and plums. In accordance with the ancient notions, sickness, and other ills would be sure to follow, but this does not appear to have been the case. During this abundant fruit season, with so high a temperature and so small an amount of rain, is it not rather remarkable that we have been unusually healthy as a nation? I think so. The question arises, is there

a cause or reason to account for this highly satisfactory state of things? I think there is. Plums at  $\frac{1}{2}$  penny per pound, and apples at three pence for one penny (?) in nearly all large towns and cities, at once make it plain that an enormous quantity must have been partaken of everywhere with excellent physical results. The question is, have we not gained greatly by all this fruit eating, and if so, what and how much? If any of your correspondents could throw any light on the very important advantages of eating fruit to make us safer from epidemics it would be solving a great question indeed for our future guidance. I have certainly eaten considerably more than usual, and required as a result less to drink; nor have I in the least felt a desire for the usual kind of drink, and during the hottest weather I never felt better. In my opinion, this general partaking of fruit has caused people to feel more satisfied—the young in particular, they have suffered less acutely from thirst and the craving for drink; and is it not a fact that the free use of popular drinks disagrees with many persons. These drinks apparently contain ingredients which rather increase the parched-feeling than allay it, and many persons over-indulge innocently. So it goes on until the stomach can bear the injurious matter no longer, and at last throws it off; but when thirst is satisfied with fruit there are no chemical substances to disagree—on the contrary, an agreeable and pleasing refreshment is taken. Again, by eating good ripe fruit the body is stimulated and invigorated in a more natural manner, and the mind is more cheerful. I have noticed stewed fruit of some kind or other is served on nearly every table, and its use is becoming more general every year. Many persons are great consumers of meat, and these would find it difficult to alter their diet; yet the question is, if we are wise and wish to keep in good health and fit at all times, whether it would not be advisable to consume more fruit and less meat, and live more in accordance with natural requirements, particularly during seasons of high temperature like the past season. I rejoice to see fruit and vegetables becoming more and more used as food.

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## RAISING ONIONS.

Onions, says William Scott, in *Garden and Forest*, may be grown by three different methods—by sowing the seeds in the open ground in spring, by planting sets or by starting the seeds under glass and afterwards transplanting the seedlings out of doors. The first two ways are more commonly practiced, but the third is undoubtedly more profitable, although entailing more trouble and labor. This has been called the new onion culture, but the method is by no means new. It has been practiced in Great Britain for a number of years, for the production, principally, of exhibition specimens. Grown under any circumstances, however, onions are far more reliable as a crop on this side of the Atlantic than in England, where the onion maggot is such a persistent and destructive enemy.

We grow onions here under all three methods, and each has its advantages. Those sown in spring are used in a green state; the sets which mature early we depend on for general summer use, while the others are kept for fall and winter. The first two methods are so generally known that culture directions here would probably be of little service, but a description of the third method may be useful to some who have not tried it. We sow the seeds thinly in flats early in March in ordinary potting soil, and place them in a greenhouse with a night temperature of 55 to 60 degrees. We keep them only moderately moist until they are well started, when plenty of water is given. In April they are removed to cold

frames and gradually hardened off, and in May are planted in the open ground. Sowing in flats is most convenient where only a limited supply is needed, but if grown on a large scale it is better to sow them in a hotbed, from which they can be transplanted quite as conveniently. Hardening off must in no case be neglected.

The ground must be well tilled and liberally manured. The young plants should be set in rows one foot apart and eight inches allowed between the plants. An impression should be made just large enough to insert the roots; the small bulbs should not be covered. When the roots have a good hold on the soil, which will be in about a week after planting, it is well to go along with a foot on each side of the line and tread the soil firmly, choosing a dry day when the soil will not be cloggy. All that will be required after this is to keep the surface well stirred with the hoe, so as to suppress the weeds and help to retain the moisture in the ground.

By the measurement of a sample grown by each of the three methods the following results are shown: Those sown in the open ground now average seven inches in circumference, and may swell just a little yet; the sets average eight inches and are done swelling; those sown inside and transplanted, average ten and a half inches, and look as if they would grow quite a little more. It is useless to grow many varieties by the latter method. Prizetaker and Yellow Globe Danvers are two that are most reliable, and they are also excellent keepers.

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## TRANSPLANTING LARGE TREES.

*Gardening* gives this method, and we can certify to its being a good one:

We prefer doing this in spring, and would prepare for it now. If you want to move a moderately large tree, say four, five or even six inches in diameter of trunk, next spring, head in its top now all you think ought to be done at planting time, then mark a ring on the ground around and four, five, six or more feet away from the stem, the distance away depending on the size of the tree. Now, along, but outside of this ring mark, dig a narrow trench say three feet deep, the object being to cut away all roots projecting beyond it, and fill up the trench at once with the same soil that came out of it. By spring the tree will have fairly recovered from the shock caused by cutting in root and top, and may be dug up and transplanted with fair chances of success.

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Mrs. O'Flaherty—They say it's not polite to be helped twicet, Mr. Dunnigan, but ye'll take another piece of my cake, won't you?

Dunnigan—Indade, Oi will that, Mrs. O'Flaherty! Sure, ut's the hoight o' polointniss to ate a sicund piece o' such cake as this.—*Puck*.



A YOUNG GARDENER AND HIS FLOWERS.

The following letter from Washington with the engraving herewith, made from a photograph, describe and represent what is probably the greatest inflorescence of the Auratum Lily ever recorded. Seattle, Washington, holds the lead for the Auratum Lily.

SEATTLE, WASH., September 29, 1895.  
JAMES VICK'S SONS: Gentlemen—Being a lover of flowers, and for many years a patron of your house, I take the liberty to enclose you a picture of my



Chester Thompson and his plant of Auratum Lily bearing fifty-three flowers.

young son, Chester Thompson, who is a little gardener of ten years, and has the art of growing flowers beyond his years. He loves them and they seem to reciprocate his affections. Anything will bloom for him. The glorious Auratum lily which he holds in his hand, was six feet high before being cut, and had fifty-three full blown lilies upon it, 42 at the time the picture was taken. He was so proud of it that he wished to preserve it in a picture. One of his young plants of Auratum had one bloom only, but it was double, being simply one lily inside another. Does this often occur? It was very beautiful.

Sincerely your friend,  
WILL H. THOMPSON.

A LADY MAKES MONEY.

Mr. Editor:—I am always interested in reading of the success of others, and will tell of mine. I tried school-teaching, clerking, and sewing, all hard work for small pay. I met a lady making \$15 a week selling National Dish Washer—best made. I ordered 1/2 dozen, washed mother's dishes in two minutes, sold all first afternoon; profit \$12. The next week I made \$37, in a month \$143; I am a good talker. I buy of the World Mfg. Co., Columbus, O.; they are very kind to me; they manufacture aluminum and electric goods, many new, rapid selling articles for agents. Others can do as I have by writing them.

CORA MILTON.

PLANTING YOUNG TREES.

Gardening produces a good epigram for planters in this first sentence:

Fifty cents for the tree and a dollar for the hole to plant it in is good sound sense. Be very particular to prepare big wide holes well filled with good loamy soil to plant your trees in. Give them a good start in life, and a few years hence when you look upon the vigorous, healthy, happy trees so treated, and then at some that may have been set out in the little basins scooped out of the hard soil and only big enough to barely hold the roots at the time, you will quickly see the wisdom of properly preparing the holes at planting time.

CONSUMPTION

TO THE EDITOR—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy free to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their express and post office address. T.A. Slocum, M.C., 183 Pearl St., New York.

PATENTS

Thomas P. Simpson, Washington D.C. No attorney's fee until patent obtained. Write for Inventor's Guide.



GOLD FOR YOU. CUT OUT THIS.

We will put YOUR NAME in our AGENTS' DIRECTORY which will bring you many good chances to MAKE MONEY; and send you sample of our specialty W. G. This is a MONEY MAKER for Agents. Also 50 SPLENDID Parlor Games, host of Album Verses, Popular Songs, the Joker's Budget, &c., &c., with a Lovely Ring (WARRANTED TO PLEASE YOU), all for 10c. & postage 2c. Address W. G. COMPANY, CLINTONVILLE, CONN.

**TAPE-WORM** Expelled ALIVE in 6 minutes with head, or no charge. Send 2c. stamp for Pamphlet. Dr. M. Ney Smith, Specialist, 1011 Olive st., St. Louis, Mo.

**AGENTS** to sell Household Specialties everybody needs. Quick sales. Big profits. Sherman & Butler, 16 N. Canal St., Chicago.

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Original and Only Genuine. SAFE, always reliable. LADIES ask Druggist for Chichester's English Diamond Brand in Red and Gold metallic boxes, sealed with blue ribbon. Take no other. Refuse dangerous substitutions and imitations. At Druggists, or send 4c. in stamps for particulars, testimonials and "Relief for Ladies," in letter, by return Mail. 10,000 Testimonials. Name Paper Chichester Chemical Co., Madison Square, Philada., Pa. Sold by all Local Druggists.



**CORPUS LEAN** Will reduce fat at rate of 10 to 15 lbs. per month without injury to health. Send 6c. in stamps for sealed circulars covering testimonials. L.E. Marsh Co. 2815 Madison Sq., Philada., Pa.



**ABSOLUTELY HARMLESS.** Simply stopping the fat producing effects of food. The supply being stopped, the natural working of the system draws on the fat and reduces weight at once. Sold by all Druggists.



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For Pillows and Mattresses.

The Most Sensible Invention of the Age!

Pillows FLAT and STUFFY  
Are made both FAT and FLUFFY  
Agents wanted.

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FRASER VENTILATORS.

PRICE 25 CENTS. Write for circular.  
ALLAN FRASER, Times Building, NEW YORK.

Once in awhile there is  
"Something New Under the Sun"  
and WE HAVE IT!!

**Velvet Grip**

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**HOSE SUPPORTER.**

THE ROUND RIB LOOP AND CUSHIONED STUD  
CREATE A VELVET GRIP,  
THAT ON HOSIERY OF FINEST SILK  
WILL NEITHER CUT NOR SLIP.

Guaranteed Durable!  
Will Hold all Kinds of  
Hosiery!  
Will Not Wear, Tear, or  
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Ask for Them at the Stores.

If not found, a sample pair  
of Ladies' Safety Pin-Top  
Hose Supporters, made from  
Lisle Web (white or black),  
will be mailed on receipt of  
25 cents in stamps or silver.

Descriptive Circular free on  
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**NAME** on 50 Fringed Hidden Name  
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Scrap Pictures, Verses, and Agents Outfit, all  
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**BERKSHIRE**, Chester White,  
Jersey Red & Poland China  
Pigs. Jersey, Guernsey & Hol-  
stein Cattle. Thoroughbred  
Sheep, Fancy Poultry, Hunting  
and House Dogs. Catalogue  
**S. W. SMITH, Cochranville, Chester Co., Pa.**

**WOULD YOU** Like a permanent posi-  
tion and \$150 month-  
ly, if so write us at once.  
We will send you full particulars Free, or a valuable  
sample of four goods in Sterling Silver upon receipt  
of Five Two cent stamps for postage, etc. Address  
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**HATCH CHICKENS BY STEAM—**  
With the **MODEL**  
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Simple, Perfect, Self-Regu-  
lating. Thousands in success-  
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hatch a larger percentage of  
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any other Hatcher. Lowest  
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Circulars free.  
Send 6c. for  
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### GOLDEN ROD POISONING HORSES.

An idea has become prevalent in Wisconsin that golden rod blossoms eaten by horses are poisonous to them and cause their death. It is safe to say that the opinion is erroneous. Golden rod grows in all parts of the country in pastures and meadows, and all manner of places, where horses and cattle have access to it. It would be a thing unaccountable that in all these years since the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers, no domestic animals have been injured by it until this year of grace, 1895, and now, all at once, it is discovered to be poisonous. The State Veterinarian of Wisconsin, who is said to have made this discovery, is simply mistaken, and should have made more thorough investigation before promulgating this incredible theory. He may make himself famous, but at the expense of reputation.

It appears that there is some disease prevailing among western horses which eventually results in death. At the present low prices of horses it would seem to be not a very costly experiment to put a few of them on a diet partially or wholly of golden rod and discover whether it causes the disease. We trust this scare may soon pass away, as we have no doubt it will, and the innocence, or innocuousness, of the golden rod be confirmed.

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### SOME OF PASTEUR'S WORK.

Extensive as were Pasteur's researches in the domain of fermentation, there were processes which time did not permit him to investigate before he was hurried off into other fields of scientific interest or practical utility. His intuition, however, led him to recognize as a fermentation process the transformation known as nitrification, consisting in the conversion of ammonia into salts of nitric acid which takes place on such an extensive scale in all the fertile soils of the earth. This process, from being regarded as a case of simple chemical oxidation, is now recognized as dependent upon the action of bacterial life; and the particular bacteria responsible for this action, after long eluding the search of the investigator, have during the last few years been isolated and described. In the course of these researches the astonishing fact has been brought to light that in these nitrifying bacteria we have living cells which are capable of flourishing and multiplying in the entire absence of organic matter. Even still more important revelations in vegetable physiology have resulted from the careful study of bacteria in recent years, for it has been shown that certain green plants obtain the nitrogen which they require for their nutrition from atmospheric nitrogen by means of certain bacteria which infect their roots. These bacteria produce nodular excrescences on the roots, but, when they are carefully excluded, these root-nodules do not make

their appearance, and the assimilation of free nitrogen ceases also. The researches of Winogradsky, of St. Petersburg, on this subject, have shown that, under suitable conditions, certain bacteria can take up this free nitrogen without the presence of this green plant at all. The intimate contact in which Pasteur had lived with these microscopic forms of life during his researches on fermentation, the great importance of which was already recognized by the French Academy in 1859, when they awarded him the prize for experimental physiology, naturally led Pasteur to take a deep interest in the controversy which was then raging on the spontaneous generation of life. Into this contest he plunged, despite the urgent protestations of many of his scientific friends, who feared that nothing would come of his venture but loss of valuable time; but it is now admitted on all sides that the settlement of this question of such transcendent importance was finally accomplished by Pasteur through experiments as remarkable for their extreme simplicity as for their clinching force.—*November Review of Reviews.*

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### DRY GROUND IN WINTER.

One of the greatest dangers threatens our trees, shrubs and vines if cold and freezing weather comes on while there is an insufficiency of moisture in the soil, as is the case at the present time over a large area of country. When a dry and cold winter intervenes there is a great loss of trees the following summer. Deciduous trees and shrubs are injured and destroyed, but probably the destruction is still greater among evergreen trees. The following observations on this subject, by the *American Cultivator*, are very appropriate:

Evergreens are found in greatest number in northern latitudes, and on elevations where the cold is too great for many deciduous trees. It stands to reason that trees whose foliage remains on them through the cold of winter should be hardy in their trunks and branches. When, therefore, we find evergreens dying after a cold winter, some other cause than the cold should be looked for. It is easily found in the fact that cold weather freezes the soil deeply, and when the soil is dry it often reaches down to the extremities of the roots. No evergreen can endure to have its water supply cut off even in winter. Its foliage gives off more moisture all the time than do the twigs and branches of deciduous trees. Whenever the ground is deeply frozen the supply of moisture from the roots is stopped. The effect is quickly seen in browning of the foliage, and if the cold continues long the sap will be evaporated from the branches and they will die.

\* \*

GUEST: You haven't got a mahogany board about about six by four, have you?  
Hotel Clerk: What do you want it for?  
Guest: I want to have it put on top of the mattress in my room.

### LINCOLN AS A HIRED HAND.

From an article in *McClure's Magazine* is made the following extract:

He was remarkably strong for his years, and the work he could do in a day was a decided advantage to Thomas Lincoln. The ax which had been put into his hand to help in making the first clearing, he had never been allowed to drop; indeed, as he says himself, from that till within his twenty-third year he was almost constantly handling that most useful instrument. Besides, he drove the team, cut down the elms and linn brush with which the stock was often fed, learned to handle the old shovel plow, to wield the sickle, to thresh the wheat with a flail, to fan and clean it with a sheet, to go to mill and turn the hard earned grist into flour; in short, he learned all the trades the settler's boy must know, and well enough so that when his father did not need him he could hire him to the neighbors. Thomas Lincoln also taught him the rudiments of carpentry and cabinet making and kept him busy some of the time as his assistant in his trade. There are houses still standing, in and near Gentryville, on which it is said he worked. The families of Lamar, Jones, Crawford, Gentry, Turnham and Richardson all claim the honor of having employed him upon their cabins. As he grew older he became one of the strongest and most popular hands in the vicinity, and much of his time was spent as a 'hired boy' on some neighbor's farm. For twenty-five cents a day—paid to his father—he was hostler, plowman, woodchopper and carpenter, besides helping the women with the 'chores.' For them, so says the legends, he was ready to carry water, make the fire, even tend the baby. No wonder that a laborer who never refused to do anything asked of him, who could strike with a mallet heavier blows, and 'sink an ax deeper into the wood' than anybody else in the community, and who at the same time was general help for the women, never lacked a job in Gentryville.

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### WOOD FIBER AS DRESS MATERIAL.

The prevailing fashion in woman's dress which provides for big sleeves, has brought lots of money into one branch of the paper and pulp industry. It is not very long since the idea of using a lining and stiffening material for these sleeves made of wood pulp or paper, was first suggested. The idea was a profitable one, and now the material is made under many names. They are fibre chamois, sponge, crepon, fiberin, buckskin fibre, cheveret, and a dozen or so of others; so many, in fact, that the manufacturers are cutting prices savagely in their efforts to control the market. Fortunately the original price was fixed at so high a figure that there was room for lots of cutting without eliminating profits.—*The Paper Mill.*



ALFALFA OR LUCERNE.

Alfalfa seed weighs sixty pounds to the bushel.

For a hay crop, sow twenty to thirty pounds of seed per acre.

For a crop of seed, sow fourteen to eighteen pounds per acre.

Sow clean seed.

North of the latitude of Washington, sow alfalfa in the spring, as soon as the ground is warm—from the middle of April to the middle of May. Sow in drills or broadcast.

In the South and Southwest and in California sow alfalfa in spring or autumn. Sow in drills. In the South sow in drills sixteen to twenty inches apart, and cultivate the first season.

Do not cover the seed too deep.

Alfalfa does not attain maturity until the third or fourth year; therefore, do not sow it expecting to get the best results in less than that time.

Alfalfa grows best on a deep, sandy loam, underlaid by a loose and permeable subsoil. It will not grow if there is an excess of water in the soil. The land must be well drained.

Alfalfa is a deep feeder. Plow the land thoroughly; the deeper the better.



ALFALFA OR LUCERNE.

Alfalfa grows best in soils containing lime, potash, and magnesium. It does not grow well in soils containing an excess of iron, or where lime is wholly absent.

Cut for hay when the first flowers appear. If cut in full bloom, the hay will be woody and less nutritious.

Cut for seed when the middle clusters of seed pods are dark brown.

To make Alfalfa hay, cut in the forenoon and let it wilt; then rake into windrows. It should be cured in windrows and cocks, and stacked or put in barns with as little handling as possible. Great care is required in order to get it in stack before the leaves become too dry and brittle. The leaves are the most palatable and nutritious part of the hay.

Cover the stacks with caps. This will prevent loss by molding when it rains.

In the arid regions, where irrigation is practiced, put water on the field before

sowing the seed, and immediately after cutting each crop of hay.

It is not safe to pasture either cattle or sheep on alfalfa, as they are liable to bloat when it is fed green. Feed them the hay, or practice soiling.

There is no better or cheaper way of growing hogs than to pasture them on alfalfa. One acre will furnish pasturage for from ten to twenty hogs per season.

Horses can be pastured on alfalfa. There is no better hay for work animals, or for young, growing stock.

Alfalfa hay is not a complete ration. The best results are got by feeding it with corn fodder, ensilage, wheat or oat straw, or roots. Alfalfa contains large amounts of protein, which goes to form blood, bone, and muscle. It is deficient in the carbohydrates, namely, starch, fats, and cellulose or fiber. These must be added to the ration or a part of the protein will be wasted.

To rid a field of alfalfa, plow in midsummer, turning up the roots to the hot sun. Or, if the field can be irrigated, let the water stand on it two or three days in midsummer. This will rot the roots, and after the water has been drained off the field can be plowed.

Do not cut alfalfa too late in the season.

Do not let water stand on a field more than forty-eight hours.

Alfalfa hay, properly cured, has about the same value as red-clover hay. The yield is much greater. It can be cut from three or four to seven or eight times in a season, and yields from a ton to a ton and a half or more at a cutting.

Six to ten bushels of seed is the usual yield per acre.

Keep the weeds mowed and raked off the first season, or they will choke out the young alfalfa.

Sow alone, without any nurse crop. The latter is often just as harmful as weeds.

Screen alfalfa seed before sowing, to separate the dodder and other weed seeds. Dodder or Love Vine is the worst enemy of alfalfa. Prevention is better than cure. —From Farmer's Bulletin No. 31, Department of Agriculture.



READ MY STORY.

FREE TO SUFFERING WOMEN.

I suffered for years with uterine troubles, painful periods, leucorrhoea, displacements, and other irregularities, and finally found a simple, safe home treatment, that cured me without the aid of medical attendance. This is no quack doctor's medicine; but nature's own remedy for women. It costs nothing to convince yourself of its merits, for I send it free with full instructions to every suffering woman. Address, MRS. L. HUDNUT, South Bend, Ind.



FINE BLOODED Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, Poultry, Sporting Dogs. Send stamps for catalogue, 150 engravings. N. P. BOYER & CO., Coatesville, Pa.



696 New Sample styles of Envelope Silk Fringe CARDS, &c., 20 New Songs, 100 Rich and Racy Jokes, 1 pack Escort Cards, 1 pack Fun Cards, 1 pack Acquaintance Cards and Standard Beau Catcher. ALL for 2 CENTS. CHAMPION CARD WORKS, UNIONVALE, OHIO

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As revised and adopted by the American Whist Congress; with rules for KALAMAZOO DUPLICATE WHIST, sent to any address. Send 2c stamp Ihling Bros. & Everard, Kalamazoo, Mich.

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COLTON'S SELECT PURE DELICIOUS EXTRACTS OF CHOICEST FRUITS and NEW YORK. Saves over 50 per cent. Actual Strength. Unequaled in Quality, Strength, and Economy.

Beecham's pills for constipation 10¢ and 25¢. Get the book at your druggist's and go by it.

Annual sales more than 6,000,000 boxes.

HOW TO MAKE

WOMEN BEAUTIFUL

Many women with fair faces are deficient in beauty owing to undeveloped figures, flat busts, etc., which can be remedied by the use of

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DO YOU WASH DISHES?

No need of it. The Faultless Quaker will do it for you and save time, hands, dishes, money, and patience; no scalded hands, broken or chipped dishes, no muss. Washes, rinses, dries, and polishes quickly. Made of best material, lasts a lifetime. Sell at sight. Agents, women or men of honor desiring employment may have a paying business by writing now for descriptive circulars and terms to agents, The QUAKER NOVELTY CO., Salem, O.

What a Lot of Eggs

the hens lay when fed on Green Cut Bone! With a dozen hens

Mann's GREEN BONE Cutter

will pay for itself in a short time in the increase of eggs.

\$5.00 buys one.

SENT ON TRIAL. 180 Highest Awards received. Catalogue free if you name this paper.

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Order NOW for Spring Delivery, while VAPOR and NAPHTHA PRICES are LOW

Boats

High grade pleasure craft of every style and class. Enclose stamps for Catalogue.

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When writing to advertisers, mention Vick's Magazine.



## EVERGREENS.

For windbreaks and ornamental purposes and beautifying your homes, there is nothing that fills the place of the evergreen. The foliage always remaining on the trees, always green and bright, enlivening the surroundings and a protection from winter's storms, we can have them to beautify our yards, shaping them to suit our taste. We can have them as trees one hundred feet high, with foliage from the ground up to break the, winter's blasts. It is impossible to over-estimate these trees as a wind-break around farmers' buildings. Evergreens are supposed to be slow of growth; this depends on the care you give them. While I am writing this article, surrounded with evergreens, I can look out of the window and see the balsam fir, the white and Norway spruce, white pine, arbor vitae, red cedar and Scotch and Austrian pine. A portion I set out twenty years ago are now by actual measurement seventy feet high and five feet in circumference. I do not call that a slow growth for timber.

In the western part of the state we must select from those varieties that are best adapted for western soil. With the experience I have had by running a small evergreen nursery for sixteen years or more and shipping to different parts of the state for trial and otherwise, I have found the Scotch pine universally gives the best satisfaction. It is a very fast grower and can stand more drought than any other variety I have a knowledge of. The white spruce is next in order. In my opinion, it is the best of our common varieties of evergreens. The Norway spruce is a fine tree but not adapted to all soils. The arbor vitae is a beautiful tree but like the Norway spruce not so well adapted to different locations and soil.

The care necessary for success in planting evergreens is first: Do not get large trees—from twelve to eighteen inches is as large as you want them, and once, or better twice, transplanted. Get them from a responsible nursery where care will be taken. When first taken up do not expose more than necessary to the sun or wind and when received use the same precaution, as it will not do to have the roots long exposed to sun or wind. Get them early in the spring, so that they can get started to grow before the drought of summer comes on. It is the best way to have the ground prepared and take the box you receive them in to the field. Take out one at a time and put in the ground. It is well to have some water, and when you put the tree in the hole dug for it, put dirt on the roots and then put a quart of water in and lift the tree up and down until you get the roots well muddled. Cover with dirt, leaving the tree two or three inches deeper than it came out of the nursery row; then mulch with rotted manure to stop evaporation. If very dry through the summer, it is well

to move the mulch and loosen the ground around the tree, putting back the mulch.

In extreme cases of drought it may be necessary to water; if so, take away some of the ground near the tree and water the roots well, but always leave dry ground and mulch on the surface; in fact, the key to the whole tree planting business is to stop evaporation and keep the ground as cool as possible. This can only be accomplished by thorough cultivation to form a dust blanket or by mulching.—*Wm. Somerville in Minnesota Horticulturist.*

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## BARK LICE.

A good wash for the tree is as beneficial as the currycomb for the horse, as the bath for a man—perhaps more so. Strong soapsuds, lye and whitewash seem about equal in their good effects. For small trees the application made be made with a rag tied to a stick—the boy can do it—but for large trees, the spray pump would be best. For killing bark lice, the spraying should be done just after hatching time in the spring. Under the scale there are thirty eggs, more or less, not as large as hen's eggs but similar in appearance. As these hatch they appear as very minute white specks around the shells, and they spread and attach themselves to the bark and form new scales. They exhaust the vitality of the tree and ruin it if very numerous.—*E. H. S. Dartt in Minnesota Horticulturist.*

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## If Baby is Cutting Teeth,

Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's SOOTHING SYRUP for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic and is the best remedy for diarrhoea.

\*\*

## Faultless Quaker Dish Washer.

VICK'S MAGAZINE pays considerable attention to household affairs and we feel confident that by suggesting the use of a humane device for the ladies that our men will not object, because men love their wives you know.

The Faultless Quaker Dish Washer is designed to lessen the labors of the housewife and to make easy that dreaded job, dish washing, which occurs with the regularity of the time piece three times a day.

By the use of the Faultless, scalded hands are not known.

It brings dish washings within the pale of a pleasurable duty, whereas by the old method it is the drudgery of the kitchen.

The Faultless Quaker is as represented, and the Quaker Novelty Co., its manufacturers, of Salem, Ohio, stands ready to give information through their illustrated pamphlet to any one who may apply. They offer splendid inducements to agents. If you are interested, write at once. It may result in your engaging in a lucrative business. When you write say we told you to.

## A NEW ART

WONDERFUL! Any one can draw all Pictures, Portraits, Sketches from Nature, etc., mechanically (patented). A child can learn. Taught by mail; send for catalogue. Agent wanted everywhere. EUGENE PEARL, Artist, 23 UNION SQUARE, NEW YORK.

## FITS CURED

(From U. S. Journal of Medicine.)

Prof. W. H. Peeke, who makes a specialty of Epilepsy, has without doubt treated and cured more cases than any living Physician; his success is astonishing. We have heard of cases of 20 years' standing cured by him. He publishes a valuable work on this disease which he sends with a large bottle of his absolute cure, free to any sufferer who may send their P.O. and Express address. We advise anyone wishing a cure to address, Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F. D., 4 Cedar St., New York.

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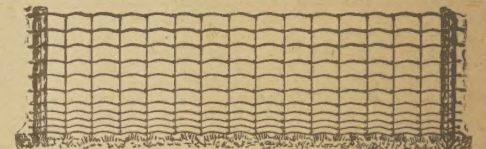
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SAVE THE GLADIOLUS BULBS.

THIS subject was suggested by the following question recently published in a floral magazine, viz. "Do gladiolus bulbs deteriorate?" Although an interested cultivator and admirer of the gladiolus for a number of years, this question never came to my mind. perhaps my experience has not been extended enough for me to express an opinion on the subject, but for the last six years, I have found that my gladiolus bulbs instead of deteriorating have increased in strength and beauty each year. I have only avoided planting them in the same place in my garden two years in succession. Commencing with a few mixed bulbs, adding others and occasionally a few choice named ones, I now have quite a valuable and large collection and have had many to distribute among my flower-loving friends.

The statement that "the popularity of the gladiolus seems to be on the wane judging by the sales this year of some of our leading florists," equally surprised me, for in this vicinity the contrary is true, and it certainly holds a warmer place each year in my own affection. For ease of culture, brilliancy and variety of bloom, and for its accomodating nature of keeping fresh so long and opening its unfolded buds when cut and put in water, I do not know its equal. It is not freaky and disappointing like some bulbs I have tried; but, though its home be in the sunshine, or partial shade, in due time it yields its treasure. To be sure it lacks the charm of fragrance, and something of grace, otherwise it would be perfection, but even the "queen of flowers" has its thorn and its own short glory. Whenever a large bouquet is needed, either in church, hall, or home, what can be more beautiful than one made of gladioli? Their flower stalks, cut of unequal lengths, can be arranged with their own foliage, or that of the blue iris of the meadow, which it closely resembles, and with Gypsophila paniculata, which always lends to any flower with which it may be used something of its own sweet grace.

Then preserve your gladiolus bulbs—every one. Allow them to remain in the ground till late in the fall or as long as they safely can without freezing; dig them carefully, cut away the flower stalk within four or five inches of the bulbs, and when thoroughly dried, and most of the stalk removed, tuck them away in some safe place free from frost for their winter's nap. I put mine in a cool closet. If you have a choice kind you would like to perpetuate, save the bulblets around the parent bulb, and plant them in the spring. They will often blossom the second season. Each year add some new ones to your collection, and, if your stock increases too fast, and you cannot turn them to golden coin or its equivalent, you can certainly, by gifts, make happy many less favored than yourself. But be sure to reserve a generous space in your garden for the gladiolus

and if your experience is like mine you will not regret the labor or expense, for I know of no other bulb that so well repays the very small amount of care that is required.

L. E. R.

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VICK'S BRANCHING ASTER.

The finer kinds of asters have developed of late years such a faculty of "how not to do it" that I have almost given up trying to grow them. Failure has been the rule, success the exception. But Vick's Branching seems much more hardy and vigorous. My one packet of seed sown in three different gardens has grown freely and bloomed finely in all. I have just measured a plant that is fifty-one inches tall. Have any of you a taller one? We have three colors, bluish pink, bright red or rose and pure white. Some flowers are four inches or more across. They were sown in boxes and set out when two inches high, and hoed now and then, no mulching or petting of any kind. Asters are not commonly grown for their fragrance and none of my old kinds have any odor at all, but Vick's Branching smells just the same as the Wild New England aster does; not a greatly celebrated perfume perhaps, but a very pleasant smell all the same. I must remember next year to stake them up.

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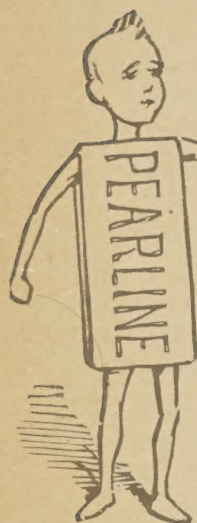
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### AN INTERESTING NEW DEUTZIA.

For many years *Deutzia gracilis* has been cultivated as one of the choicest shrubs of the garden and greenhouse. Its pure white flowers, finely formed, and abundantly produced, have caused it to be highly esteemed as a handsome low growing shrub, and for its flowers in a cut state. For this latter purpose it is extensively employed, and is admirably adapted to pot or bench culture.

Under the name of *Deutzia Lemoinei* a new variety has been introduced in France, which will probably take a place beside *D. gracilis* for the same purposes which make the latter so valuable. It originated at the establishment of Emile Lemoine, at Nancy, France, and is a hybrid from *D. parviflora* crossed by *D. gracilis*. The following account of the parent plants and the offspring is given by M. Lemoine in the *Gardener's Chronicle*:

*D. gracilis*, Zuccarini, which grows in the damp mountain valleys of Japan, is a little bushy shrub with lanceolate leaves, and white flowers arranged in single bunches, with glabrous anthers borne on the central point of a trilobed thread. This species, introduced by Siebold about the middle of this century, and brought into trade by M. J. Baumann, a Ghent nurseryman, is now universally grown; it is raised in large quantities for forcing, and it is even stated, in the *Nouveau Jardinier*, that "this of all shrubs is the most suited for this kind of cultivation." It is hardy, and likes a light, fresh soil, wherein is a good proportion of heat.

*Deutzia parviflora*, Bunge, is a shrub of recent introduction. It came originally from North China, and the vicinity of the Amour river, whence it was introduced into the Imperial Botanic Garden at St. Petersburg, then into the Arnold Arbor-

etum, at Cambridge, United States. Professor Sargent, the well-known director of that establishment, sent us some branches, one of which put forth a bud which developed and took root. Thus we were enabled to be the first in Europe to introduce this fine species into trade. At the same time the Paris Natural History Museum had received from Professor Sargent in 1887, some seeds of the same species, and succeeded in blooming the two or three plants thus raised. This plant forms an upright tuft scarcely more than five feet high, the stems rather thick, stiff, and standing vertically, the leaves elliptical or lanceolate, dentate, much reticulated and wrinkled on both sides, deep green in color. The preceding year's stems bear down their entire length small trusses of flowers exactly resembling those of hawthorn in appearance. The flowers are widely open, the petals are creamy-white, rounded, and diminishing at the base into a very narrow point, which displays the calyx as in many Rosaceous plants. The stamens are clear yellow, the threads just spreading at the base, but not auriculate at the summit.

This is the most valuable species of the genus, as the flowers open in April, some days before those of *D. gracilis*. Further, it can be forced; lastly, it is perfectly hardy in the climate of Nancy where varieties of *D. crenata* are often frozen to the ground level.

Crossed with the pollen of *D. gracilis* in the spring of 1891, *D. parviflora* produced a certain number of hybrids which, planted the second year in the open ground bore unharmed the colds of the three last winters. They are tufts about three feet high, the branches of which are quite erect, and bear from early in May clusters of flowers; as many as from 1000 to 1500 flowers and buds may be counted on each plant.

In general appearance *D. Lemoinei* is

intermediate between its two parents, although it has not their qualities. The branches are more upright, firmer, and more solid than in *D. gracilis*, more regular in appearance, not so long, and in greater number than in *D. parviflora*. The inflorescences are developed in all the axils of the branches, appearing early and in a regular manner, so that no lack or space is visible; while in *D. parviflora* it is not rare to see long stems bare of flowers here and there, and as if by chance. The hybrid has not the corymb of *D. parviflora* nor the long truss of *D. gracilis*. It bears a ramified panicle, erect, sometimes hemispherical, sometimes cone-shaped with a broad base. Each cluster includes from fifteen to twenty-five large and well opened flowers, measuring three-fourths of an inch to an inch, in appearance different from those of other *Deutzias*. The petals are broad, oval, with undulated edges, of the purest white and quite concealing the lobes of the calyx; the stamens are reddish-yellow with a trilobed thread. The flowers of *D. Lemoinei* are spread quite out, while those of *D. gracilis* have pointed petals, and are generally but a little open: they touch in the inflorescence so as completely to hide the peduncles and pedicels; this is not so with *D. parviflora* or *D. gracilis*. *Deutzia Lemoinei* is an excellent shrub for forcing, as is testified by the plants given in April, 1894, to the Société d'Horticulture de France. They were taken up and potted the previous autumn, then grown in a cool house. Placed in the temperate house they would flower much sooner. The plants thus obtained are well formed, regular, laden with pure white flowers, without being encumbered by too abundant foliage. Grown side by side with *D. gracilis*, they surpass that plant in beauty. Thus we believe that this new shrub will soon be widely multiplied for forcing, and will gradually supplant *D. gracilis*. In the open ground it needs no special care so it may have place in all gardens, however small. Quite as floriferous as is *D. gracilis*, it has the advantages of being more hardy and sturdy, of growing much more quickly, and of flourishing in any soil.

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